Remarks

Pages 3-5, 8-9 and 10-12 of the PCT application from which this application derives were amended and replaced in a response to the Written Opinion. The replacement pages were annexed to the International Preliminary Examination Report, a copy of which should have been sent to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office by the International Bureau. However, for ease of reference, a copy of the International Preliminary Examination Report with the annexed replacement pages is being included with this amendment. This preliminary amendment is based on the text of the replacement pages.

The claims have been amended herein to remove multiple dependencies and to place the claims in better condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance is thus respectfully requested.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as Express Mail Label EL315360105USin an envelope addressed to: Asst. Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231

Saily

Signed:_

Typed Name:

Sally Azevedo

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April 12, 2000

Respectfully submitted,

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